

## Building employment capacity for the next generation.

South Gippsland Shire Council recently participated in a program that aimed to encourage employment skills for Year 10 students at Leongatha Secondary College.

Council staff acted as 'mock interviewers' alongside other representatives from local businesses across South Gippsland. The interviews provide students with opportunities to practice for real interviews in the future and receive constructive feedback.

Students who participated gained valuable insights into employment preparation and interview processes.

Council's People and Culture Advisor Melinda McLennan reported that it was a really rewarding experience.

"I enjoyed the opportunity to help build students confidence and guide them on how to apply for jobs.

"The program is a fantastic experience for students and is worthwhile opportunity for us to share our experience," said Ms McLennan.

Council staff also assisted with the Passport to Employment program, which aimed to develop job readiness in young people with disabilities.

The eight week program included sessions on; teamwork, communication and technology, self-management, planning and organizing. A series of mock interviews were then held to conclude the program.

Council officers again participated and offered their insights and encouragement to job seekers, with a view of building the capacity of local jobseekers for a disability.

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